

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims pending in the instant application are numbered 1-16. Claims 1-16 presently stand rejected. Claims 1 and 4 have been amended. The Applicant respectfully requests that the instant application be reconsidered in view of the following remarks.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejections

In the August 9, 2006 Office Action, claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Prater, US Patent No. 4,829,199 (hereinafter Prater).

With regard to a rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102, MPEP § 2131 sets forth that

“A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.” *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987)

Independent claim 1 as presently amended expressly recites:

1. A circuit, comprising:

a first current limiting circuit including a first switch and a first current source coupled between a selector terminal and a first voltage bus, wherein one mode of operation of an integrated circuit is selected when there is no external connection to the selector terminal and another mode of operation of the integrated circuit is selected when a voltage at the selector terminal is fixed by an external connection to a regulated voltage, the first current limiting circuit having a first fixed current limit value and a third fixed current limit value, the first current limiting circuit adapted to limit a current out of the selector terminal to the first fixed current limit value or the third fixed current limit value in response to a voltage on the selector terminal; and

a second current limiting circuit including a second switch and a second current source coupled between the selector terminal and a second voltage bus, the second current limiting circuit having a second fixed current limit value and a fourth fixed current limit value, the second current limiting circuit adapted to limit a current into the selector terminal to the second fixed current limit value or the fourth fixed current limit value in response to the voltage on the selector terminal.

(Emphasis added). Thus, independent claim 1 expressly recites that one mode of operation of an integrated circuit is selected when there is no external connection to the selector terminal and another mode of operation of the integrated circuit is selected when a voltage at the selector terminal is fixed by an external connection to a regulated voltage.

Prater is directed to a driver circuit providing load and time adaptive current. Prater fails to disclose, teach or even fairly suggest the limitations summarized above as expressly recited in the Applicant's presently claimed invention. For example, Prater fails to disclose, teach or fairly suggest at least that one mode of operation of an integrated circuit is selected when there is no external connection to the selector terminal and another mode of operation of the integrated circuit is selected when a voltage at the selector terminal is fixed by an external connection to a regulated voltage.

The remaining claims 2-16 are dependent claims and therefore distinguish for at least the same reasons as their respective independent base claim 1 and add further limitations of their own. Since Prater fails to disclose, teach or fairly suggest expressly recited claim limitations, the Applicant respectfully request that the instant section 102 rejections be withdrawn.

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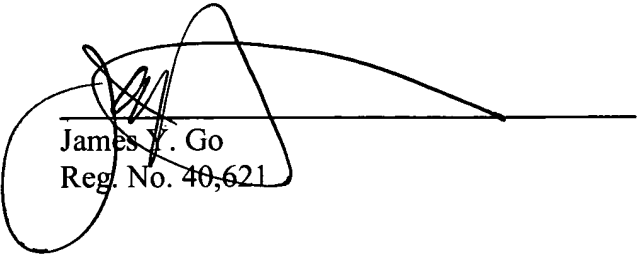
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The Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: 11-6-06


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